

14 April 2021

**Our Ref:** RFI 38235

Dear

**Freedom of Information Act 2000  
Information in relation to MRI Imaging within the Trust.**

I am writing to confirm that the South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust (the Trust) has now completed its search for information relating to above which you requested on 15 March 2021.

A response to each of the questions raised has been provided by the Hospital Services Directorate and is attached in Appendix A.

If you are unhappy as to how this request has been handled, you have the right to seek a review within the Trust in the first instance. You should write to the Information Governance Department, Lough House, Ards Community Hospital ([informationgovernance@setrust.hscni.net](mailto:informationgovernance@setrust.hscni.net)) within two months of the date of this response and your complaint will be considered and a response provided, within 20 working days of receipt.

If, after receiving a response, you remain unhappy, you can refer your complaint to the Information Commissioner at The Information Commissioner's Office –Northern Ireland, 3rd Floor, 14 Cromac Place, Belfast, BT7 2JB. It is important to note that if you refer any matter to the Information Commissioner, you will need to show evidence of having gone through the Trust's internal review procedure to try to resolve the matter with the Trust in the first instance.

If you have any queries about this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

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**Rebecca Manning/Joyce Batch  
Information Governance Assistant**

**Q1. For the calendar year of 2019, please could you tell me how many individual MRI examinations were performed overall?**

A1. There were 14,037 individual MRI examinations performed within the Trust for the calendar year 2019.

In addition to the above figure there were 2,565 ICATS examinations.

**Q2. For the calendar year of 2019, please could you give a breakdown of the individual MRI examinations performed into body part/area? For instance, how many brain scans, spine scans etc. I am happy with whichever body part description is input in the PACS system.**

A2. Please see Attachment 1 – Trust MRI Examinations 2019.

**Q3. As of March 1st, 2021, how many MRI requests are on the waiting list waiting to be scanned? Please could I have this broken down into individual body part/examination too (like in question 2)?**

A3. As of 1 March 2021 there are 758 requests on the Trusts waiting list waiting to be scanned.  
For the breakdown please see Attachment 2 - Trust MRI Waiting Lists as of 1 March 2021.

**Q4. How much money was paid to private companies during the calendar year 2019 for the outsourcing of MRI either to mobile MRI units, private hospitals or private companies staffing hospital scanners to scan NHS patients?**

A4. £673,903 was paid to a private company during the calendar year 2019 for the outsourcing of MRI examinations to scan Trust patients.

**Q5. From question 4 which companies were used and how many patients were scanned?**

A5. The private company was Alliance and Medical and there were 2362 Trust patients who received MRI examinations.